

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 7194

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR BR

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN RESPONSE TO BOGOTA MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF BRAZILIAN AIDE MEMOIRE REPORTING RESPONSE TO COLOMBIAN INVITATION FOR MEETING OF LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS IN BOGOTA WHICH WAS TRANSMITTED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY TO BRAZILIAN EMBASSIES IN PARAGUAY, CHILE, BOLIVIA, PERU, VENEZUELA, COSTA RICA, GUATEMALA AND U.S. ON OCTOBER 19. THE EMBASSY WAS FURNISHED THE DOCUMENT BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THIS MORNING:

"IN REPLY TO THE INVITATION MADE ON OCTOBER 12 BY THE COLOMBIA FOREIGN MINISTER, DR. ALFREDO VASQUEZ CARRIZOSA, TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE OF LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS WHICH WOULD MEET ON NOVEMBER 14 NEXT IN BOGOTA TO DISCUSS IMPORTANT MATTERS OF CONTINENTAL INTEREST, THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF BRAZIL REGRETTED HIS NOT BEING ABLE TO TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION ON THE DATE SUGGESTED SINCE HE HAS ALREADY ASSUMED FOR NEXT MONTH COMMITMENTS RESULTING FROM MINISTERIAL LEVEL VISITS TO BRAZIL. AT THAT TIME, THE COLOMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WAS ALSO INFORMED THAT THEY WOULD ALSO FIND ON THE PART OF BRAZIL THE GREATEST ACCEPTANCE OF ALL IDEAS WITH A VIEW TO THE STRENGTHENING OF LATIN

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AMERICAN SOLIDARITY AND THE PERFECTING OF UNDERSTANDING WITH

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WHOSE PARTICIPATION IN ANY CONTINENTAL ORGANISM CONSTITUTES IN OUR VIEW A FUNDAMENTAL REQUISITE FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES PURSUED BY LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. FURTHER, THE BRAZILIAN ORIENTATION WAS NO DIFFERENT WHEN IT ASSURED SUPPORT FOR THE VENEZUELAN INITIATIVE OF PROPOSING A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE FUNCTIONING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM WITH THE INSTITUTION OF THE SPECIAL REFORM COMMISSION WHICH IS PRESENTLY MEETING IN WASHINGTON. IT IS CERTAINLY TRUE THAT THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION WILL STILL REQUIRE A LONG PROCESS OF APPROVAL ON THE PART OF THE DIFFERENT GOVERNMENTS BEFORE THEY ENTER INTO EFFECT, BUT IT IS NO LESS CERTAIN THAT ALL OF THE PROBLEMS FACED BY THAT ORGAN WILL ARISE IN A MEETING AT A HIGHER LEVEL. WHILE IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT PROBLEMS EXIST WHICH REQUIRE URGENT SOLUTION, THERE IS ALSO A FEAR THAT THE CALLING OF A MEETING AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL NEXT NOVEMBER COULD INFLUENCE NEGATIVELY THE PROGRESS OF THE PRESENT WORK OF THE COMMISSION WITHOUT ASSURING COMPLETELY THE SUCCESS OF THE CONFERENCE PROPOSED FOR BOGOTA BECAUSE OF THE SHORTNESS OF TIME AVAILABLE FOR ITS PREPARATION. THERE IS, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE CONCERN THAT THE CALLING OF A CONFERENCE FOR THE DATE UNDER DISCUSSION COULD PRODUCE A FALSE IMPRESSION THAT THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WERE NOT CONSCIOUS OF THE GRAVITY OF THE WORLD SITUATION IN VIEW OF THE CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST WHICH BEGAN AFTER THE PRELIMINARY UNDERSTANDINGS UNDERTAKEN IN NEW YORK BETWEEN THE COLOMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER AND OTHER EMINENT LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS. THUS, IT WOULD BE CONVENIENT THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF CALLING A CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM ON ANOTHER OCCASION BE EXAMINED A CONFERENCE WHICH COULD POSSIBLY PRECEDE THE IV GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE OAS WHEN THE GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO DECIDE ON IMPORTANT MATTERS OF CONTINENTAL INTEREST. THE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SUGGESTION LIES IN THE FACT THAT BEFORE THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY ALL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE CONTINENT WOULD HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO STUDY THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION AS WELL AS OTHER PROPOSALS AND TO ADOPT POSITIONS WITH REGARD TO THESE SAME CONCLUSIONS WHICH WOULD AVOID THE INCONVENIENCE OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION BEING SUPERIMPOSED AS AN INEVITABLE TOPIC ON THE

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DELIBERATIONS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS. FINALLY, IT IS TO BE EXPECTED THAT BY THAT TIME THE GRAVE UNKNOWNNS WHICH ARISE FOR THE WHOLE WORLD AND WITHOUT DOUBT FOR LATIN AMERICA AS A RESULT OF THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT MAY HAVE BEEN CLARIFIED."

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